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Geology of the Lower Colorado River. By WILLIS T. LEE. (Bulletin of the Geological Society of America, Vol. XVII [June 23, 1906]. Pp. 275-84, plates 32-24.)

In this interesting paper the origin of the Grand Canyon is placed at the very close of the Tertiary and most of its erosion is assigned to the early Quaternary. During the Pliocene and early Quaternary the Lower Colorado flowed through a broad valley occupied by Virgin River at the north and extending southward 125 miles to the mouth of Williams river. It was deflected from this course by detrital aggradation and lava flows which filled a part of the old valley to a depth of 800 feet. Since then it has lowered its new channel over 2,000 feet and cut Boulder, Black, Needles, and Aubrey canyons. The canyon has since been filled with gravel to a depth of 700 feet, and later re-excavated below its present bottom. At present aggradation is in progress. C. W. W.

Geology and Mineral Resources of Part of the Cumberland Gap Coal Field, Kentucky. By GEORGE HALL ASHLEY AND LEONIDAS CHALMERS GLENN. (U. S. Geological Survey, Professional Paper No. 49.) Pp. 239, 40 plates. Washington, D. C., 1906.

The rocks of this field all belong to the Pottsville group, with a thickness here about 4,000 feet. The lower third of the rocks are mainly sandstones, while the upper two-thirds, carrying the coal beds, are about equally sandstone and shale. The structure is that of a flat-bottomed U-shaped trough; dips do not average more than 100 feet to the mile. There are thirteen workable coals. Eight are mined; thickness, 4 to 6 feet. The output is from 600,000 to 1,000,000 tons a year, used mainly by the L. & N., and the Southern Railways and by a blast furnace at Middlesboro.

C. W. W.

Trent River System and Saint Lawrence Outlet. By ALFRED W. G. WILSON. Rochester, N. Y., 1904. (Bulletin of the Geological Society of America, Vol. XV, pp. 211-42, Plates 5-10.)

The configuration of the Trent River system of eastern Ontario is determined by joints in the Ordovician limestone of that area. Farther north in the Archean, pre-Ordovician faults influence the drainage. Neither glacial erosion nor deposition have been sufficient to obliterate the pre-glacial drainage lineaments determined by joints. But the pre-glacial direction of drainage was prevailing to the southwest and this has been largely changed by tilting.